CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1.   A method for automatically identifying a scan area by a scanner, said method comprising:

scanning an original comprising an object;

identifying said original to establish a location and a profile of said object in said original;

displaying a preview window, wherein every said object corresponds to a confined area in said preview window, wherein a location and a profile of said confined area is same as said location and said profile of said object corresponded;

receiving a framed area having said confined area selected from said preview window by a user;

removing a portion of said framed area beyond said confined area to transform said framed area into said scan area; and

scanning said scan area.

2.   The method according to claim 1, further comprising not displaying said preview window but displaying an image of said object.

3.   The method according to claim 2, wherein a location and a profile of said image is a location and a profile of said framed area.

4.   The method according to claim 1, wherein said profile and said location of said object are determined according to information obtained in said step of scanning said original.

14

5. The method according to claim 4, wherein said information comprises at least a plurality of gray scale data.

6. The method according to claim 4, wherein said information is transformed into a plurality of pixels, then said profile and said location of said object is determined by comparing the differences between each said pixels.

7. The method according to claim 4, wherein said profile and said location of said object is determined by gradually calculating from edges to center of said original.

8. The method according to claim 4, further comprising a step of receiving a selection message inputted by said user to decide how said profile and said location of said object are determined responsive to said selection message.

9. The method according to claim 1, further comprising said framed area is automatically confined in said confined area, and said user can't select any portion of said preview window beyond said confined area as a portion of said framed area.

10. The method according to claim 1, further comprising a step of receiving at least one parameter inputted by said user to scan said scan area responsive to said parameters.

11. The method according to claim 1, further comprising

when there is a plurality of isolated objects in said original, there are a plurality of confined areas in said preview window, wherein any profile of said confined areas is one of said profiles of said objects, and any object corresponds to one of said confined areas.

5

12.   The method according to claim 1, further comprising when there is a plurality of isolated objects in the original, there is only one confined area in said preview window, wherein said profile of said confined area comprises every profile of said objects to confine every said object in said confined area.

10

13.   A method for selecting a scan area by a user, said method comprising:

scanning an original comprising an object;

obtaining a preview window, wherein locations and profiles of confined areas are locations and profiles of said objects;

selecting a framed area including a specific confined area from said preview window, wherein a portion of said framed area beyond said specific confined area is automatically removed to transform said framed area into said scan area; and

scanning said scan area.

14.   The method according to claim 13, wherein said profile and said location of said object are determined according to information obtained in said step of scanning said original.

15.   The method according to claim 14, further comprising a step of at least one parameter inputted by said user to scan said scan

area responsive to said parameters.

16.   The method according to claim 13, further comprising said framed area is automatically confined in said confined area, and said user can't select any portion of said preview window beyond said confined area as a portion of said framed area.

17.   The method according to claim 13, further comprising a step of receiving at least one parameter inputted by said user to scan said scan area responsive to said parameters.

18.   The method according to claim 13, further comprising when there is a plurality of isolated objects in said original, there are a plurality of confined areas in said preview window, wherein any profile of said confined areas is one of said profiles of said objects, and any object corresponds to one of said confined areas.

19.   The method according to claim 13, further comprising when there is a plurality of isolated objects in the original, there is only one confined area in said preview window, wherein said profile of said confined area comprises every profile of said objects to confine every said object in said confined area.

20.   A scanner with a feature of automatically identifying a scan area, said scanner comprising:
        a scanning flatbed for supporting an original;
        a scanning module for scanning said original to generate information;

a logic operation module for calculating a location and a profile of an object in the original by use of an algorithm responsive to said information;

a display module for displaying a preview window corresponding to said original, wherein a confined area with a location and a profile in said preview window comprises a location and a profile of said object; and

evaluating module for receiving a framed area selected from said preview window by said user, wherein a portion of said framed area beyond said confined area is automatically removed to generate said scan area.